THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes Sir, the Government has initated the process of appointment of new Directors to the Boards of Indian Institutes of Management through Search-cum-Selection Committees to be constituted for this purpose. The appointment will be made by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), out of the panel recommended by the Search-cum-Selection Committee.

(b) Yes Sir.

Medium of instruction in schools

147. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Government policy on the medium of instruction to be followed by schools in States;

(b) whether there is any restriction in the number of schools that each State should have, where English is the medium of instructions; and

(c) the basic guidelines for sanctioning new schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) National Curriculum Framework (NCF)–2005 approved by Central Advisory Board of Education, recommends that mother tongue or home language should be the medium of learning in schools at the primary stage.

(b) As per Affiliation Byelaws of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) there is no restriction in the number of schools affiliated to it having English as the medium of instruction.

(c) Schools, are given affiliations by School Eduation Boards, after they fulfill the conditions laid down in their affiliation byelaws.

Engineering colleges recognised by AICTE

148. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of engineering colleges recognized by AICTE in the country, so far, State-wise;

(b) the total number of new engineering colleges applied for recognition in this academic year; and

(c) the number of engineering colleges which have fulfilled the norms of recognition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) As per the information furnished by All India Council For Technical Education (AICTE), the number of engineering colleges recognized as on 31st July, 2007 is 1617. 403 new engineering colleges have applied for recognition with AICTE in the academic year 2007-08 out of which 106 engineering colleges fulfill the norms and have been issued letter of approval. The State-wise details are in the Statement.